

projects, hosting weekly community discussions to address littering, drug use, gang activity and the importance of community involvement.

Ms. Haywood's sense of obligation to improve her community and educational opportunities for others led her to tutor her peers after school. Her philosophy is, "knowledge is power and the more you know the more power you have." She participates in various school activities including the Alpha Kappa Alpha Bolivar County Community Humanity Involvement Club, Coahoma Community College Tr-County Workforce Job Shadowing Program, and other civic organizations.

After completing her Bachelor of Science degree, Kendra has plans to pursue a professional degree in Clinical Psychology at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Ms. Haywood has expressed a desire to become part of Teach for America as a way of giving back to a rural community and inspiring youth, because Teach for America has had a profound impact in her education.

Ms. Kendra Haywood has three siblings, Kenneth Jr., Darius, and Jarvis. She says they, along with her parents, had a positive impact on her desire to reach for the stars in life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Kendra Haywood as the valedictorian of Broad Street High School Class of 2012.

IN HONOR OF THE CONEJO VALLEY CHAPTER OF MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS, THE SGT. MICHAEL A. DIRAIMONDO CHAPTER OF MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART, AND THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE BALL

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Conejo Valley Chapter of Military Order of the World Wars, the Sgt. Michael A. DiRaimondo Chapter of Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the Red, White and Blue Ball.

For 27 years, the Military Order of the World Wars has presented its Red, White and Blue Ball to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism. This year, the Conejo Valley Chapter is joined by the Sgt. Michael A. DiRaimondo Chapter of Military Order of the Purple Heart. Army Sgt. DiRaimondo was Ventura County's first casualty in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was 22 years old.

I did not know Michael, but I have become close friends with his exceptional family.

Each year, the Ball honors an individual who has demonstrated exceptional patriotism and who has made significant contributions to the community.

The U.S. Navy will be honored at this Saturday's event. This is the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Navy SEALs and Captain Jason Ehret, USN SEAL, will be the honorary chair. The 2012 Patriotic Citizen of the Year is Colonel John Fer, who served in the U.S. Air Force for 28 years.

It is fitting that the Ball will be held at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. It will

start with an open reception followed by a formal opening ceremony. Dinner, dancing to music of the Harry Selvin Band, and silent and live auctions will round out the evening.

It is a festive affair, with military personnel—active, reserve and retired—wearing dress uniforms. Civilian men wear dark suits or tuxedos and civilian women wear formal or cocktail dresses.

Auction proceeds will support activities such as Ventura County and Thousand Oaks Veterans Day ceremonies, Conejo Valley Memorial Day ceremony, Thousand Oaks Youth Leadership Conference, Junior ROTC awards, and Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops.

Mr. Speaker, I attended the first Red, White and Blue Ball 27 years ago and am proud to have been presented the Gold Patrick Henry Award at the 1989 Ball.

I am leaving Congress at the end of this session, which will change my relationship with the Military Order of the World Wars and the Sgt. Michael A. DiRaimondo Chapter. I am confident, however, that the relationship will remain strong and grow in the coming years.

I am equally confident that my colleagues join me now in honoring the Conejo Valley Chapter of Military Order of the World Wars, the Sgt. Michael A. DiRaimondo Chapter of Military Order of the Purple Heart, Captain Jason Ehret, the U.S. Navy SEALs, and the Ball's 2012 Patriotic Citizen of the Year, Colonel John Fer. Thank you all for your service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF SAN MATEO'S ADOPTION A COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 327TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 1ST BRIGADE, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION.

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the City of San Mateo for its adoption in 1968 of A Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

In 1967 a soldier in Vietnam named Sgt. Joe Artavia wrote a letter to his sister, Linda, asking her to convince the City of San Mateo to adopt his company. He thought an adoption would lift troop morale "as high as the sky." Linda rallied the community to support her brother and his comrades. Within three months the San Mateo City Council passed a resolution to adopt the company.

Tragically, Artavia was killed three weeks later rescuing a fellow soldier, and the people of San Mateo joined together in mourning. Artavia's death solidified San Mateo's commitment to its adopted company and, in fact, in 1972 San Mateo was the only city in the United States to hold an official homecoming parade honoring Vietnam veterans.

Since that time the city has continuously supported A Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, visiting them in peacetime, establishing pen-pals and sending care packages. The city has served as a model for other towns, cities or counties to adopt individual military units throughout the country.

San Mateo's adopted company has recently returned from a 12-month tour of duty in Af-

ghanistan and will be redeployed for a third tour. In commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the welcome-home parade for the veterans returning to San Mateo, the city is holding another welcome home parade and festival to honor past and present soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division who have put their lives on the line for our country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives join me in honoring the city of San Mateo for supporting A Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and its brave men and women who filled it ranks, especially those who gave their lives for our freedom.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MUSCOGEE RETIRED EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the members and supporters of the Muscogee Retired Educators Association (MREA) as they commemorate its 50th anniversary this year. A celebration luncheon will be held on Friday, June 22, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia.

MREA was established as the Muscogee Retired Teachers Association (MRTA) in 1962 when Mr. Boyd B. Littlejohn and a small group of other retired Muscogee teachers decided to organize themselves in order to better attend to the needs and concerns of retired teachers in the area. Mr. Littlejohn, a retired principal who served St. Elmo, Clubview, and McIlhenney schools, became the first president before going on to serve as president of GRTA from 1965–1967.

In its early existence, members of MRTA would meet in their homes or in churches. Ms. Ruth Plumb and Mrs. Rex Lavender served as presidents until MRTA became inactive for a short period. In 1972, J. Zeb Morris, retired principal of Waverly Terrace and jazz pianist, became president. After this, MRTA began to grow in membership and was able to improve its service to retired teachers.

Throughout the years, the association has been led by distinguished retired educators such as Lucile David, Lyda Hanna, Nathan Hunter, Brice Carson, Jack Shepard, Laura Haygood, L.B. Hickson, Sumter Blackmon, John Little, O'Neal Hendricks, Kathryn Hunt, Esto Smith, Anita B. Walters, Dr. Jeanette Marshal and its current president, Diane Boss, among others.

Mr. Nathan Hunter also served as GRTA President from 1979–1980 and Mrs. Lucile Hunter, his widow and an MRTA member, presented his GRTA gavel to the MREA. The gavel is a treasured keepsake and is passed on to each succeeding MREA president.

In 1998, the GRTA changed its name to the Georgia Retired Educators Association to include all those who work in the field of education and are under the Teacher Retirement System of Georgia. MRTA followed suit, changing its name to the Muscogee Retired Educators Association (MREA), as it is called today.

In addition to having served as teachers, mentors, and role models throughout their career, members of MREA continue to serve the

community in retirement by volunteering their time to help out at schools, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, museums, libraries, health screening venues and other places. A number of members also volunteered at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Columbus for fast pitch baseball.

In past years, MREA has consistently been presented with competitive Membership awards from GREA. Also, MREA strives to help active teachers by awarding scholarships to those seeking graduate degrees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding the exceptional efforts of the Muscogee Retired Educators Association for all they have done and will continue to do to address the needs of our retired educators. Not only did MREA members provide a great service during their careers teaching our young people, but they have continued that legacy of service in the community in retirement and for that, I thank each and every one of them.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAPHAEL
KAUFFMANN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Raphael Kauffmann, an outstanding teacher who serves as a role model for students and teachers alike. It is only fitting that he has been named San Mateo County Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Kauffmann graduated Cum Laude from San Francisco State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast and Electronic Communications in 1995. Since 2005, Mr. Kauffmann has taught at Carlmont High School in Belmont. He was promoted to Chair of the English Department in 2009. He is a member of the National Education Association, the National Council of Teachers of English and he won a PTSA Award of Excellence in 2010.

Under Mr. Kauffmann's leadership Carlmont High School adopted the Expository Reading and Writing Course, a school-wide reading and writing program. The program sparked a fruitful collaboration among the teachers within his department. The program helps prepare students for college and advances students' writing skills.

Mr. Kauffmann did not always know he wanted to teach. Starting at age 12 or 13, he was most passionate about music. He played bass in his high school band and also started a band with friends. In college he learned audio production, which helped him apply his passion for music to his professional life. His dynamic career has spanned the music, recording and software industries.

These experiences taught him the skills and qualities necessary for survival in the professional world. They also taught him that he could meld together academic, professional and creative interests while navigating a career path. He brings these lessons into the classroom and offers his students a broad perspective.

Instead of creating an authoritarian atmosphere, he makes students his partners in the process of learning. He promotes an environ-

ment of mutual respect and uses his musical background to connect with at-risk youths. He uses music as a tool to communicate with young people who the educational system has left behind. For example, when Mr. Kauffmann met one student who was nearly ready to drop out of high school, Mr. Kauffmann connected with this young man about music, took him under his wing and helped him graduate on time.

Mr. Kauffmann is a devoted husband and father; he is married to Chandra Kauffmann and they have a son, Rami.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the outstanding service of Raphael Kauffmann to the residents of San Mateo County. For many more years to come he will serve as an inspiration for other teachers, and a beacon for his students.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION CELEBRATING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF
TITLE IX LEGISLATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the momentous Title IX legislation. Forty years ago, on June 23, 1972, it was established that educational institutions receiving federal funding were barred from discriminating against anyone on the basis of sex. That decision applied to student admissions, recruitment, scholarship awards and tuition assistance, housing, access to courses and other academic offerings, counseling, financial assistance, employment assistance to students, health and insurance benefits and services, athletics, and all aspects of education-related employment.

This landmark legislation led to gains for women in all fields, from academics to business to science and technology. The law is probably most well known for its impact on women in athletics. Since Title IX was enacted, the number of women competing in college sports has soared by more than 600 percent, and the number of high school girls competing in sports has increased by over 1,000 percent.

This is important because we know from scientific research that student athletes graduate at higher rates, perform better in school and are less likely to use drugs and alcohol, smoke, or develop mental illness or obesity later in life. Furthermore, I have heard from countless female athletes, like Olympic gymnast Dominique Dawes, that without athletic scholarships made possible by Title IX, they simply would not have been able to attend college. Imagine the vast intellectual, cultural and athletic opportunities that would have been lost to these young women had they not been able to pursue their goals of furthering their education.

In the years since the law was passed, we have had to fight for improvements to the legislation and fight against other attempts to weaken it. In 2003, I led a hearing in the basement of this very Capitol building when Title IX was being threatened by Commission for Opportunity in Athletic recommendations that ignored the continuing lack of participation

opportunities and funding that women's and girls' athletics were facing. I clearly recall watching a line of little girls in their soccer uniforms enter the room accompanied by their fathers. These dads spoke eloquently about the importance of coaching their daughters in sports, and how it meant just as much to them as coaching their sons. Although bad policy was enacted that limited the effectiveness of Title IX, I am proud to say we were able to reverse significant parts of that in 2010.

The fight for fairness continues. Today we still face disparities in opportunities for girls in sports, particularly at the high school level. Girls make up half of the high school population, yet receive only 41 percent of all athletic participation opportunities. This translates to 1.3 million fewer opportunities for young women to play high school sports than young men. Worse yet, this gap is actually increasing.

How is it that one law can have such a dramatic impact at one age level and yet be less successful for our young women who are just four years younger? The answer can be found in public transparency and accountability. As is true elsewhere in life, sunshine can be the best of disinfectants.

At the collegiate level, colleges and universities are required to publicly account for how their athletic opportunities, resources, and dollars are allocated among male and female athletes. No such transparency requirements are found at the high school level. Not surprisingly, where there is no public accountability, there is a growing gap in athletic opportunities for young student-athletes.

Currently, high schools are required to submit annual reports of their athletic participation numbers by sport and gender to their state high school athletic associations. Additionally, school bookkeepers already keep records of all school expenditures—including those made within the athletic department. Despite doing all the work of collecting this data, none of it is required to be made public.

To make a simple, but profound, change to high school reporting requirements, I have authored H.R. 458, the High School Athletics and Accountability Act. This bill would require high schools to make public vital data on the participation of girls in high school sports. Schools already collect this data. Making the information public would be a small change for school administrators—estimates are that it would take just three to six hours of time once a year to produce a report—and would have a huge impact on the opportunities available to our young girls.

As we celebrate the anniversary of the passage of this landmark legislation, we must recommit ourselves to continuing the fight for equity for women and girls. I ask my colleagues to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Title IX with me, and pledge to keep pressing forward until opportunities are equal for all.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROGER
ANDREY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Officer Robert Andrey for his 27 years of service at the Burlingame Police Department.